

# Vinson&Elkins

Margaret J. Sampson msampson@velaw.com  
Tel 512.542.8569 Fax 512.236.3264



IFW  
1634 \$

February 27, 2006

## MAIL STOP FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

February 27, 2006 *Margaret Sampson*  
Date Margaret J. Sampson

Re: U. S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/980,884 entitled "Sample Processing Device" by Matthew John Baker. (Our Ref: INV850/4-30US)

Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced patent application is:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111 (with request for three months extension of time);
2. Credit Card Payment form; and,
3. A return postcard to acknowledge receipt of these documents. Please date stamp and mail this postcard.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to the enclosed materials, the Commissioner is authorized to appropriately deduct or credit the requisite amount from VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P. Deposit Account No. 22-0365/INV850/4-0310US/58013.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Sampson*

Margaret J. Sampson  
Reg. No. 47,052

MJS/cp  
Enclosures  
679309\_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

*In re* Application of:  
Matthew John Baker

Serial No.: 09/980,884

Filed: March 25, 2002

For: SAMPLE PROCESSING DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 1634

Examiner: Bradley L. Sisson

Atty. Dkt. No.: INV850/4-030US/58013

Confirmation Number: 1979

03/02/2006 HMARZ11 00000036 09980884

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February 27, 2006

Date

Margaret Sampson

**Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 25, 2005, for which the shortened statutory period for response was November 25, 2005. The Commissioner is requested to consider this statement as a petition for an extension of time of three months, bringing the due date for reply to February 27, 2006. A credit card payment form in the amount of \$1,020.00 is enclosed, which covers the three month extension of time fee according to 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3). No further fees are believed to be due with the filing of this paper. If the fee is missing or should any other fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from the referenced deposit account.

The Amendment and Reply is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
  - in ascending order;
  - with status identifiers; and
  - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.